

REPORT NO.
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25X1A

COUNTRY USSR (Crimean ASSR)

SUBJECT Saki (Laki) Airfield

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PLACE

PLACE
ACQUIRED

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1. A military airfield, about 900 x 1,500 meters, was located about 2.5 km east of Zaki (45°08'N/33°36'E). Crimean A.S.S.R. The field was surrounded by a step-like area, the soil of which consisted of a bottom layer of gravel about 3.5 to 5 meters deep and a top layer of very firm dark earth about 10 to 15 cm deep. A macadam road 5 meters wide led from Zaki to the field.
2. Installations seen at the field included: A brick building, about 10 x 70 meters, with a roof of slightly vaulted concrete slabs; a watchtower near the brick building; a five-story brick building, probably an apartment house, with a four-story annex; a four-story brick building, about 8 to 10 x 10 meters; a three-story brick building, 12 x 60 meters; a two-story brick building, 10 x 20 meters; and a temporary wooden building, 12 x 60 meters. A fuel dump consisting of about 18 to 20 oblong containers, and a red brick building were seen in an area of 150 x 300 meters.
3. About 250 twin-engine semi-high-wing monoplanes were parked on the edge of the field. The planes had radial engines, projecting slightly beyond the trailing edges of the wings, double rudder assembly, retractable landing gear and tail wheel. The aircraft were painted green, and their noses were painted red, yellow or white. A searchlight was fitted in the nose. When the planes took off it was often observed that they had a torpedo under the fuselage. The torpedo was about 5 to 6 meters long and had five or six yellow rings.
4. Flying was practiced at day and night at irregular times. Individual take-offs of 10 to 70 planes were observed. The planes assembled in formations of 9, 12 or 15 and were accompanied by three or four fighters coming from the direction of Yevpatoria (45°12'N/33°24'E).
5. It was inferred from flying observed that aircraft of the same type were stationed at another airfield which possibly was farther westward.

Attachment: Sketch of Saki airfield.

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